

Freeport Debate Centennial

DRAWER 5

DEBATES

Freeport Debate Centennial



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The Lincoln-Douglas Debates 1858

Freeport Debate Centennial

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

This Time Next Year

Kiwanis Club To Direct Centennial Day Parade

A Lincoln-Douglas Centennial parade, almost entirely horse-drawn and made up of floats and units characteristic of 1858, will be the responsibility of Freeport Kiwanis Club, the Lincoln-Douglas Society announced today.

Clubs and civic organizations, commercial firms, neighboring villages and counties and the other debate cities will be invited to sponsor entries to bring back the parades, political demonstrations and ways of life of 1858. All advertising matter will be banned.

In giving Kiwanis Club the responsibility for the parade, the Lincoln-Douglas Society is carrying out its policy of assigning each Centennial project to a local organization. Kiwanis board of directors and members studied the society's plan for a parade before voting to accept the assignment.

Has Specifications

The Centennial Parade will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 27, the final day of the Centennial commemoration, and the date of the Freeport Debate.

The Lincoln-Douglas Society re-

ports that according to the most reliable of the contemporary records, no regular parade was held on Aug. 27, 1858. There were numerous short, impromptu political demonstrations at various places in the city the evening of Aug. 26 and all day Aug. 27.

The plan is to re-enact and combine these in one organized parade, with other characteristic scenes.

For Example

Kiwanis is asked to avoid the modern-day lineup of bands, motorcycles, cars and trucks, and instead "reproduce, in marching continuity, as many of the historical events of the day and time as possible."

For example, the Douglas railroad locomotive and flat car, bearing the brass cannon of the "Little Giant," can be reproduced, and the train from the south which brought Lincoln and his party into Freeport.

Carriages can be decorated for each of the states which were in the Union in August 1858. The famous Connestoga wagon in which

Lincoln rode to the grove will be an important float.

Individuals can carry typical political banners of the time and can represent those who took part that day, including the residents who traveled to the debate from all over the county and area.

"Costumes, vehicles, even the flags and buntings should be correct for the period."

Other Suggestions

The society thinks there probably was no barbecue on the courthouse lawn, as some later accounts have reported, but suggests this sort of scene would be appropriate for the parade.

A replica of the Manny Reaper, and of the "Rail Splitter" wagon of the original Debate Day, are proposed. Floats can also depict political issues of the day, and the partisans of both Lincoln and Douglas.

The buildings of the day, including the Brewster House and Pennsylvania Hotel, would make floats, the society suggests. Both Lincoln and Douglas spoke informally

across the second-floor iron railing of the Brewster House. The same railing is now part of the porch of the Lancaster Township home of Mrs. Mary Henney Smithe.

Guest Entries

Winnebago and Carroll counties had big delegations at the original debate, with banners and symbols.

The other debate cities may be invited to send floats representing their own debate centennials.

Historical societies may be represented, also.

Music Of Period

It is suggested that the music be supplied by small German bands, or larger bands on floats, all of them playing the music of the period. Mrs. Roy Farwell has a collection of the music of the time.

Visiting dignitaries will be invited to the reviewing stand, which may be either at the courthouse or the debate site.

Kiwanis Club is now appointing the committees to be responsible for entries, staging and routing of the march, awards, etc.

Cabinet Officer Coming

Postmaster General To Be Here Aug. 27 For Debate Stamp Issue

Postmaster Gen. Arthur E. Summerfield will be in Freeport on Aug. 27 to celebrate the issuance of the Lincoln-Douglas commemorative stamp. The first-day sale of the stamp will be at Freeport.

The Lincoln-Douglas Society has been advised by the Cabinet officer that he will bring with him 15 albums of the stamps to be presented to "distinguished Americans associated with the centennial observance."

The postmaster general will speak on the significance of the event and the reasons why the Post Office Department is commemorating it with a special stamp.

His talk and the presentation of the albums will be part of the week-long centennial celebration commemorating the second of the Lincoln-Douglas debates in Illinois, the one in which Douglas answered the Freeport Question with the Freeport Heresy.

Native Of Michigan

Summerfield, 59, is a native of Pinconning, Mich., who attended the Bay City and Flint public



POSTMASTER SUMMERFIELD

schools. He entered the real estate business in 1918, then became an oil distributor in 1924.

In 1929 he formed the Summerfield Chevrolet Co. of Flint.

He has been Michigan director of the National Automobile Dealers Assn., regional vice president and chairman of its postwar planning committee.

In civic activities, he served as Michigan director of the Boys Clubs of America in 1951-52, is a member of Kiwanis service club, the Elks, a 33rd degree Mason and a member of the Bay City Consistory.

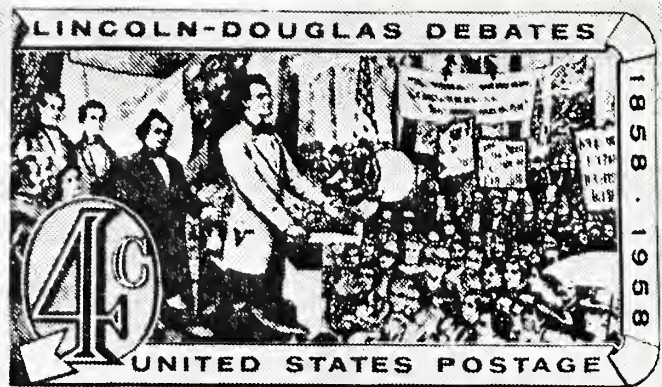
Political Career

He was finance director for the Republican State Central Committee of Michigan before he became

Michigan national committeeman in 1944. He served as chairman of the Republican National Committee for six months in 1952-53. He was named by President Eisenhower to be the 54th postmaster general of the United States and confirmed by the Senate in January 1953.

The postmaster general has honorary degrees as doctor of business administration from Cleary College, Ypsilanti, and as doctor of laws from Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

He married Miriam W. Graim on July 22, 1918. They have a son and daughter, both married and five grandchildren. They maintain their home at Flint, Mich., and in Washington live at the Sheraton Park Hotel.



THE "LITTLE GIANT" AWAITS HIS TURN while the towering Lincoln addresses one of the many huge crowds they faced during their senatorial battle a century ago, as depicted on an old print. This is the design of the first of a series of four values to mark the sesquicentennial of Lincoln's birth. It will be released August 27 in Freeport, Ill. In sepia, the initial order calls for an edition of 120 million in the usual horizontal commemorative format.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate 4c To Depict Scene From Old Print; More On Revaluing Envelopes

The first in a series of four stamps commemorating the sesquicentennial of the February 12, 1809 birth of Abraham Lincoln will be released August 27, the 100th anniversary of the most important of the seven Lincoln-Douglas Debates of the 1858 Illinois senatorial campaign. The first day city, Freeport, Ill., was the location of that important encounter of a century ago.

A reproduction of an old print showing Lincoln addressing an outdoor crowd with the diminutive Douglas standing behind him awaiting his turn was used as the motif of the stamp.

The "4c" value appears in a large shaded oval at the lower left. A thin ribbon forms the border at the top, right and bottom, and contains the inscription "Lincoln - Douglas Debates" across the top; "1858 - 1958" at the right, and "United States Postage" at the bottom, all in dark Gothic letters.

An initial order for 120 million of these stamps has been placed, with printing in sepia by rotary press, electric-eye perforated, and issued in sheets of fifty. The stamp will be arranged horizontally and will measure 0.84 by 1.44 inches. Ervine Metzler, a member of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, was the designer.

Collectors desiring first day cancellations of this stamp may send addressed envelopes, with remittance, to the Postmaster, Freeport, Illinois. The outside envelope should be endorsed "First Day Covers Lincoln-Douglas Debates Stamp."

The Lincoln-Douglas Debates took place during a two months period preceding the November 2 elections. The exact dates and places were:

Ottawa, August 21; Freeport, August 27; Jonesboro, September 15; Charleston, September 18; Galesburg, October 7; Quincy October 13; and Alton, October 15.

Douglas, then senator, was re-elected, but in the course of the campaign Lincoln forced him to make known his position on various important issues, meanwhile setting himself (Lincoln) definitely and positively in opposition. In the final result Lincoln had the popular majority but lost in the legislature (which in that time actually elected the senators) through the apportionment system then in vogue.

Lincoln salvaged national prominence from his defeat, and two years later gained the presidential nomination as a result. The rest is history.

The second stamp in the series will be issued on February 12, 1959, the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. No decision has been made as to the remaining stamps in this Lincoln Sesquicentennial series or the dates of their issuance.

Series of Lincoln Stamps Will Be Released Aug. 27

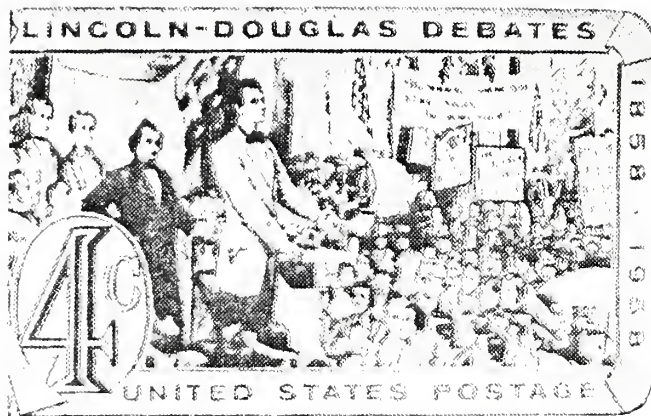
The first in a series of four stamps commemorating the sesquicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln in 1809 will be released Aug. 27 at Freeport, Ill., the 100th anniversary of the Lincoln-Douglas debates. A supply of the stamps will be available at Pomona Post Office the following day.

A reproduction of an old print showing Lincoln address-

ing an outdoor crowd with Douglas standing behind him was used to illustrate the stamp.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates held in Ottawa, Freeport, Jonesboro, Charleston, Galesburg, Quincy, and Alton, Ill., each attracted crowds of 10,000 to 15,000 people in the 1858 contest for United States senator. Altho Douglas was re-elected, Lincoln emerged a national figure and was elected President two years later.

Collectors desiring first day cancellations of this stamp may send addressed envelopes, with remittance, to the Postmaster, Freeport, Ill. The outside envelope should be endorsed "First Day Covers Lincoln-Douglas Debates Stamp."



STAMP HONORS LINCOLN

This is the first of a series of four stamps commemorating 150th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln in 1809. The 4-cent stamp, which shows Lincoln speaking, while Stephen Douglas listens, will be issued in Freeport, Ill., Aug. 27.

Calendar Of Centennial Week, Cards And Placards Released

The schedule of events for the Freeport Debate Centennial was released today by the Lincoln-Douglas Society.

Posters giving the calendar are available. So are placards, made up for window display by stores and business firms, which have Lincoln and Douglas in black and white, the design by Andrew Garner, local artist.

Car cards — 19,000 of them — with the Garner design will be mailed to area residents by the Northwestern Telephone Co. with monthly statements.

The Lincoln-Douglas Society suggests these be pasted in rear windows of cars or other conspicuous places to help tell the story of the Freeport Debate Centennial.

The calendar of events begins with those in advance of the Centennial Week, Aug. 24-31.

Advance Events

Stephenson County Fair, Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 19-23, Fairgrounds.
Museum Display, Friday, Aug. 22, continues through Aug. 30, Stephenson County Historical Museum.

Re-enactment of the Freeport Debate (10 minutes), ChicagoLand Music Festival, Saturday, Aug. 23, 7:30 p.m., Soldiers Field, Chicago.

Centennial Week Begins

Spiritual commemoration of the Freeport Debate at all churches of Freeport, Sunday morning, Aug. 24.

Announcement of the Centennial Lady and presentation of contest awards, Sunday, Aug. 24, 2 p.m., Taylor Park.

Re-enactment of the Freeport Debate (30 minutes) by Rep. William Horsley and S. Phil Hutchison, Sunday, Aug. 24, 2:30 p.m., Taylor Park.

Band and choral concert by Freeport Concert Band and guests Sunday, Aug. 24, at 8 p.m., Krape Park.

Centennial production, "Day of Decision," Monday-Friday, Aug. 25-29, 8 p.m.

Tuesday Events

Dedication of Brewster House plaque, Tuesday, Aug. 26, 11 a.m., N. State Ave. and E. Stephenson St.
Dedication of Lake Le-Aqua-Na by Gov. William G. Stratton, Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2 p.m., Lake Le-Aqua-Na, Lena.

"A Century of Flowers" Garden Show, Tuesday, Aug. 26, (3 to 9 p.m.) through Friday, Aug. 29, 11 hours except Tuesday, 9-9, Masonic Temple ballroom.

Art Exhibit, Tuesday-Friday, Aug. 26-29, 9-9, Masonic Temple.
Camera Exhibit, Tuesday-Friday, Aug. 26-29, 9-9, Masonic Temple.

Coin and Stamp Exhibits, Tuesday-Friday, Aug. 26-29, 10-8, Freeport Public Library.

Governor's Dinner given by sponsoring members of Lincoln-Douglas Society (invitational), Tuesday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m., Hotel Freeport.

LINCOLN



DOUGLAS

1858 • FREEPORT, ILLINOIS • 1958

Centennial Commemoration

AUGUST 24-30

On 100th Anniversary

Parade, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 9:30 a.m., Walnut, Main, Adams, Stephenson streets.

Ceremonies: Lincoln-Douglas postage stamp, the Hon. Arthur E. Sumnerfield, postmaster general of the United States, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 11 a.m., courthouse reviewing stand.

Coffee for distinguished visitors (invitational), Wednesday, Aug. 27, 11:30 a.m., at Flower Show, Masonic Temple.

Lunch for distinguished visitors (invitational), Wednesday, Aug. 27, 1 p.m., place to be announced.

Concert by Freeport Concert Band, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2-15, Lincoln-Douglas Boulder, N. State Ave. and E. Douglas St.

Ceremonies of commemoration, Mayor Glen F. Kunkle, Cong. Leo E. Allen, Gov. William G. Stratton, Sen. Paul H. Douglas and Sen. Everett E. Dirksen, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 3 p.m., the debate site, N. State Ave. and E. Douglas St.

Dedication: Douglas School, with

presentation of plaque, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 4:15 p.m., site of new school.

Senatorial reception by the sponsoring members of the Lincoln-Douglas Society (invitational), Wednesday, Aug. 27, 5 p.m., Veterans Memorial Home.

At Week's End

Broadwood Plano Recital by Kenneth Drake, Friday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m., Junior High School.

Antique Show, Saturday, Aug. 30, 11-11, and Sunday, Aug. 31, 11-6, Veterans Memorial Home.

Balloon Ascension, Saturday, Aug. 30, 5:30 p.m., Taylor Park.

Centennial balls, Saturday evening, Aug. 30.

Presentation of awards, Sunday, Aug. 31, 1 a.m., courthouse.

Complete Schedule Of Events Listed For Debate Centennial

Here is the complete schedule of activities and exhibits planned for the centennial celebration of the Lincoln-Douglas Debate in Freeport Aug. 23 through 31.

Saturday

12:30 p.m. — Special train of Freeporters leaves for torchlight parade and debate scene at Chicagoland Music Festival at 8:05 p.m. in Soldiers Field; festival to be broadcast over radio station WGN at 7:30.

Sunday

Morning—Special observances at local churches.

2 p.m.—Concert of old favorites by Freeport Concert Band and Sweet Adelines, with Mrs. John Triff as soloist, Taylor Park.

3 p.m. — Announcement of the Centennial Lady for the week's activities; presentation of awards for the art, photography and essay contests, Taylor Park.

3:30 p.m. — Half-hour re-enactment of the Freeport Debate by Rep. William Horsley and S. Phil Hutchison, Taylor Park; broadcast live over WREX-TV, channel 13; filming for Dave Garroway's show on Monday.

8 p.m.—Band and choral concert presenting music of the past 100 years by Freeport Concert Band and 125-voice chorus, Krape Park band shell.

Monday

7 to 9 a.m.—Ten-minute film on television station WTVO, channel 93, over Dave Garroway's program "Today" of the debate re-enactment.

8 p.m. — Pageant by all-local cast, "Day of Decision," tells in drama, music and dance the story of the Freeport Debate and its effect on history, Krape Park band shell.

Tuesday

11 a.m.—Dedication of the plaque at the site of the old Brewster House, where Lincoln and Douglas

spoke to Freeporters, N. State Ave. and E. Stephenson St.

2:30 p.m.—Dedication of Lake Le-Aqua-Na at Lena by Gov. William G. Stratton.

3 p.m.—Opening of Century of Flowers show sponsored by Freeport Garden Club, Masonic Temple ballroom.

7 p.m.—Dinner honoring Gov. Stratton, admission by ticket only, Hotel Freeport.

8 p.m.—Pageant, "Day of Decision," Krape Park band shell.

Wednesday

9:30 a.m.—Parade, "The Freeport Debate," with floats, marching units and bands, route to be South Walnut avenue, Main street, South Adams avenue and Stephenson street, and presentation of parade awards at the reviewing stand at the Masonic Temple.

11 a.m.—Ceremony for issuance of the Lincoln-Douglas commemorative stamp with Postmaster Gen. Arthur E. Summerfield, reviewing stand at Masonic Temple.

11:30 a.m.—Coffee in honor of distinguished guests, by members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Masonic Temple.

1 p.m.—Luncheon for Lincoln students and writers, officers of state historical societies, members of the press and special guests, admission by ticket only, Hotel Freeport.

2:15 p.m.—Concert by Freeport Concert Band, at site of debate, N. State Ave. and E. Douglas St.

3 p.m. — Commemoration ceremony at debate site with Mayor Glen F. Kunkle, Cong. Leo E. Allen, Sen. Paul H. Douglas, Sen. Everett M. Dirksen and Gov. William G. Stratton.

4:15 p.m.—Dedication of Douglas School, north of Westwood Hills Subdivision.

5 p.m.—Senatorial reception honoring Sen. Dirksen and Sen. Doug-

las, admission by ticket only, Veterans Memorial Home.

8 p.m.—Pageant, "Day of Decision," Krape Park band shell.

Thursday

8 p.m.—Pageant, "Day of Decision," Krape Park band shell.

Friday

8 p.m.—Broadwood Recital by Kenneth Drake of Forreston, pianist, playing an all-Beethoven program, Junior High School auditorium; pageant, "Day of Decision," Krape Park band shell.

Saturday

2:15 p.m.—Old-fashioned balloon ascension, Taylor Park.

8:30 p.m.—Centennial ball open to the public, Masonic Temple ballroom, admission by ticket only; other balls for members and guests only at Veterans Memorial Home, East Side Recreation Center, Germania, Moose Hall, Elks Club.

Sunday

1 a.m.—Presentation of awards for the centennial balls, courthouse.

Exhibits

"Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas"—Stephenson County Historical Museum, today through Saturday, Aug. 30, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 31, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Century of Flowers"—Masonic Temple ballroom, Tuesday, 3 to 9 p.m. and Wednesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Antique show—Veterans Memorial Home, Saturday, Aug. 30, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 31, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Art work—Masonic Temple ballroom, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Photography — Masonic Temple ballroom, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Coins and stamps — Freeport Public Library, Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

HEAR LINCOLN VS. DOUGLAS— AT MUSIC FETE

Group from Freeport to Re-enact Debate

BY CLAY GOWRAN

A special train will arrive in Chicago next Saturday afternoon from Freeport, Stephenson county. Among its 500 passengers will be 250 persons who, that night, will present one of the most colorful performances of the 29th annual Chicagoland Music Festival in Soldiers' field.

The 250 men and women, members of the Lincoln-Douglas society of Freeport, will take the vast Festival audience back in time to a vital moment of American history in the making—the Lincoln-Douglas debate held in their then small town 100 years ago.

Other passengers on the special train will be citizens of Freeport coming to the Festival.

To Wear Period Costumes

The Freeport actors and actresses, all amateurs, will wear the costumes of 1858 central Illinois as they re-enact the scene in their town on the night of Aug. 27 of that year, when Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas met there. Just as on that momentous night, there will be a torchlight parade and a German band belaboring the atmosphere with its tunes.

Stars of the re-enactment are residents, not of Freeport, but of Springfield. G. William Horsley, Republican state representative and attorney, will portray Lincoln, and S. Phil Hutchison, another Springfield attorney, will take the part of Douglas.

With "Lincoln" on the platform will be Carl Richardson, a Springfield accountant, portraying the part of Lincoln's good friend and supporter, Joseph Medill, founding editor of THE TRIBUNE. All three of these Springfield men are veteran members of the Abe Lincoln Players of Springfield, who, each year, present Robert Sherwood's famous play, "Abe Lincoln in Illinois," at the New Salem State park.

Preview of Centennial

The Freeport group's performance at the Festival will be a picturesque preview of a Lincoln-Douglas debate centennial celebration which will begin in Freeport Aug. 24. On that day, the full debate between the two famous Americans will be re-enacted. The celebration will last one week.

To publicize Freeport's part in the Festival and its week long home celebration, one member of the Lincoln-Douglas society will embark next Wednesday on a unique pilgrimage. Darlan LaBounty, a laboratory employe in Freeport, will drive an ancient, two horse surrey from his home city to Chicago, changing teams several times on the way.

LaBounty expects to arrive at Tribune Tower next Friday afternoon. The surrey will be used at the Festival to carry "Lincoln" onto the field.

One of Many Features

This flashback in time and history will be only one item in the long program of this year's great Festival, which, like its predecessors, is sponsored by Chicago Tribune Charities, Inc.

Topping the bill are the



Mrs. Willard Cashman, Miss Elizabeth Hartman and Miss Ethel Kruse (left to right), pictured in costume during the Freeport rehearsal for the festival debate. (TRIBUNE Photos)



Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Swann also will be in the Freeport group.

stars, each a sure fire hit. They are Bob Hope and Herb Shriner, famed comedians; Miyoshi Umeki, the tiny Japanese girl who rocketed to fame in "Sayonara"; Jimmie Rodgers, singing idol of the teen-agers, and Paul White-man, undisputed king of jazz and Festival guest of honor.

Lincoln Outtalks Douglas — And Freeport Loves It

Famed Debate of Century Ago Re-enacted in Celebration

BY JOHN JUSTIN SMITH
Staff Writer

FREEPORT, Ill. — Abe Lincoln outtalked Stephen A. Douglas, and the crowd went daffy with glee.

That's what happened when Freeport staged a re-enactment of the famed Lincoln-Douglas debate of just a century ago. The re-enactment was corny — but lots of fun.

ABOUT 5,000 persons (one-third the crowd of a century ago) assembled in Taylor Park for the debate spectacle Sunday afternoon.

Scores of gents in the audience wore stovepipe hats and frock coats just to give the re-enactment an authentic flavor.

Some ladies wore long dresses of 1858 vintage. Others wore chemises of 1958.

ONE HUNDRED years ago Wednesday was flooded with folks from all over the nation who arrived by horse and buggy, horseback, railroad — or walking.

Sunday's crowd was mostly borne by autos.

But two things were much the same in 1958 as they were in 1858 — the weather and the political climate.

Just a century ago, the skies were cloudy and cool.

And, as a century ago, the place was loaded with Republicans. Democrats are not too easy to find in Stephenson County.

LINCOLN was portrayed by state Rep. G. William Horsley of Springfield, a Republican, of course. He calculates that he has played Lincoln nearly 100 times before.

Douglas was played by S. Philip Hutchinson, a Springfield attorney.

Both men wore costumes and Hutchinson admitted dolefully: "My wig itches."

The 1958 debate differed from that of 1858 in several respects. The speeches Sunday were carried over a public address system, and they were only half an hour, all told, as compared with three hours a century ago.

HORSLEY read excerpts from the Lincoln address, in

which Abe, then a woody lawyer seeking a seat in the U.S. Senate, made Douglas make statements about slavery that split the Democratic party in 1860, giving Lincoln the presidency.

The crowd was mighty pleased.

THEY WERE just as pleased, and maybe a mite more so, when the Freeport centennial committee got around to naming its centennial lady.

Selected for the honor was Mrs. Arthur Rasmussen, whose beautiful pink and blue gown was made by a New York costume company.

Mrs. Rasmussen's costume was really authentic.

As she and a few others know, she even wore white cotton stockings beneath her long gown.

FREEPORT has planned a big schedule for its centennial celebration of the debate.

The high point will come Wednesday when speakers will include Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield, Gov. Stratton and Senators Dirksen and Douglas — Paul, not Stephen.

Freeport Re-enacts

Century-old Lincoln-Douglas Tableau

Special to The Sun-Times

FREEPORT—The people of Freeport practically popped their buttons Wednesday with one of the biggest parades in the city's history.

A crowd of 50,000 to 60,000 persons, by police estimate, lined the streets to watch a picturesque two-hour parade. It was a parade bringing to life again the highlights of that day exactly a century ago when Abraham Lincoln arrived by train to debate a waiting Stephen A. Douglas.

There were speeches by political leaders later, but only about 1,000 people showed up to listen.

Recall Fateful Question

It was a far cry from that August day in 1858, when the Illinois rail-splitter asked Douglas, the "Little Giant," the fateful question: Did people of a United States territory have the right to exclude slavery from its limits legally prior to the formation of a state constitution?

Douglas's answer, which was to be known as the Freeport Doctrine, was that it could. There was great applause from the massed thousands who talked of little but politics that day.

The atmosphere of 1858 was evident all through the parade. Women wore bonnets and calico dresses. Men sported stovepipe hats, of the kind the gaunt Lincoln wore. Men also wore frock coats.

Dignitaries Attend

Gov. Stratton of Illinois, Gov. Vernon Thomson of Wisconsin, and Illinois Sens. Everett M. Dirksen, Republican, and Paul H. Douglas, Democrat, rode in old-fashioned carriages along with other luminaries. Behind them came 90 floats depicting the Freeport of 1858, "the Lincoln era." Throngs of people,

playing the roles of Lincoln and Douglas supporters, marched Wednesday as their ancestors had 100 years ago.

The debates themselves had been re-enacted last Sunday, in advance of the actual anniversary Wednesday.

Stratton declared there is "a sickness in America today," in alluding to the continuing problem of segregation. For a cure, the governor suggested that Americans take to heart the lessons of the Lincoln-Douglas debates on the slavery question.

Rips Segregation

"America must stand for freedom and equality," Stratton said. "Neither the Republican nor the Democratic party nor this nation can continue to tolerate that sickness [segregation] and can't hide it under a rug. We must achieve lasting understanding and tolerance. Our people understand that problem and will do something about it regardless of party."

The senior senator from Illi-

nois, also named Douglas, but no kin to the "Little Giant" of 1858, spoke out in defense of Lincoln's opponent.

Writers and orators frequently have pictured that opponent as "squat, arrogant, morally obtuse and none too bright," Sen. Douglas noted.

Praises Douglas Stand

These appraisals, he asserted, were "a grave distortion of the truth." An avid scholar of the Lincoln-Douglas era, the senator described Douglas as "a passionate fighter for American unity."

He was to rise to "true greatness" in the 1860 presidential election, which he was to lose, Douglas noted.

"Seeing that his defeat was inevitable," Douglas continued, "he toured the South and begged them not to secede.

"Lacking the moral nobility of Lincoln, Douglas nevertheless deserves well of our country, much more than we have been willing to accord."

Sen. Dirksen in his speech on Lincoln said the emancipator "among the missioners of mankind in the field of civil endeavor stands out above all others.

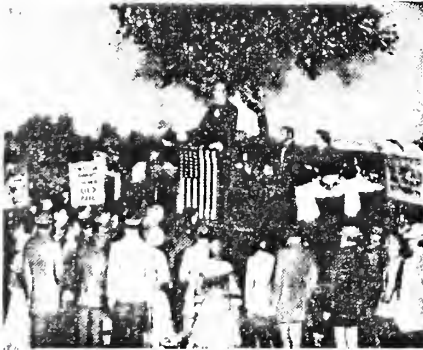
"He was a humble, common man, whose only weapons were an incandescent conviction, an unflinching zeal, invincible logic and an unfailing sense of right and wrong," Dirksen declared.

In another ceremony, a commemorative postage stamp showing the debate scene was issued. E. George Siehle, assistant postmaster general, presided.

The civic celebration continues at Freeport through Saturday, when six official balls will be held throughout the city.

OFFICIAL COVER

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES
CENTENNIAL



Freeport Scene, August 27, 1858

OFFICIAL ENVELOPE
Lincoln Group, District of Columbia

Lincoln Group
of the
**District
Of Columbia**

First of series for
LINCOLN
SESQUICENTENNIAL

30c each or 4/\$1.00

Lincoln Group
Lincoln Museum
511 - 10th St., N. W.
Washington 1, D. C.

MUSEUM of the
Stephenson County Historical Society
1440 S. Carroll Ave., Freeport, Illinois

Centennial Hours: 9:30 a.m.--9:00 p.m. Daily

Regular Hours: 1:30--5:00 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday

The house in which the museum is located was built in 1857 by Oscar Taylor and called "Bohemiana".

Ground Floor Hall

Here are displayed a flag used at the time of the Debate and a torch carried in the Douglas procession August 26, 1858. Over the long seat are pictures by Stella Perkins of Freeport's first school, the cabin of the man who named Freeport and a battle of the Blackhawk War fought near here.

Front Parlor--Northeast

In the front parlor a Chippendale curio cabinet holds 19th century glass, china and metal objects. In the room are two shadow boxes, one containing a wreath made of Stephenson County seeds and nuts, the other a wreath made of duck feathers. Under separate glass domes are a group of Illinois birds stuffed and mounted and a blue vitriol crystal formation which was on display in the store of a pioneer Freeport druggist. Over the mantle between French Empire vases is a portrait of Jane Addams painted by Mrs. Donald Breed. On display are two Victorian chairs (100 years old) lent by Mrs. W. D. Little, Freeport.

Taylor Room--Northwest

The former back parlor is now the Taylor room. Here are displayed objects which belonged to the original owners of this home. Over the 200-year-old pianoforte are portraits of Oscar and his wife Malvina Snow Taylor painted by a member of the family, and a list of distinguished people who were guests of the Taylors. Over the mantel is a portrait of the Honorable John Taylor, father of Oscar, who was Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives and the first man to speak out against slavery before that august body. The china in this room was painted by Mrs. Taylor when she was 76 years old. A glass-topped case guards the "Song of the Centuries", a volume hand illuminated by Charissa Taylor Bass, daughter of the Oscar Taylors, for her beloved husband, Frank Bass. In the bookcase on the south wall are original Lincoln and Douglas letters loaned by Mrs. John K. Lincoln of Freeport. Here are also political broadsides lent by the University of Indiana and the Vermont Historical Society.

Dining Room--Southwest

Across the hall is the dining room. The mahogany Chippendale furniture here is from the old Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The china cabinet contains Star and Dewdrop and other pattern glass. Above the mantel is a steel engraving of Douglas lent by Mrs. George W. Graham of Freeport. On either side of the engraving are girandoles lent by Mrs. Kenneth Knowlton, Freeport. Under the glass on the sideboard are three old papers lent by Mrs. Frederick G. Smith of Freeport.

Jane Addams Room--Southeast

Connecting with the dining room is the Jane Addams room. Here are objects pertaining to Jane Addams of Hull House fame, her family and her friends. Some of Miss Addams' own toys, her cradle, a picture of a dog she painted as a child and some of her school reports and letters are displayed in this room. There is also the stencil used by her father, the Honorable John Addams, a member of the Illinois Legislature, to mark the flour barrels at his mill in Cedarville. There are books from the Cedar Creek Union Library, the first in the county, which was maintained in the Addams' home. Other interesting items are a Rogers group, "The Council of War". There is also a figure wearing a dress which belonged to Jane's stepmother, Anna Haldeman, and a Wardian case (mosses and small plants grown under glass) copied from a woman's magazine of 1858.

Upper Hall

The Lincoln-Douglas Debate diorama was made by Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Blackwood of Freeport and was commissioned by the Stephenson County Historical Society to commemorate the Centennial. Near the diorama is a frame of Lincoln-Douglas political items lent by Mr. Joseph G. Brown of Milwaukee. Across from the diorama is a display of men's clothing and accessories of the period.

Exhibition Hall--2nd Floor

Lincoln and Douglas Display Piece --	Lincoln National Life Foundation
Miscellaneous exhibits -----	Wisconsin Historical Society
Lincoln Album, Unbound volume	
of debates -----	J. M. Hamer, Chicago
Broadsides, leaflets, newspapers	
coins, stamps -----	University of Indiana
Campaign Stationery and Ballots ----	Joseph G. Brown, Milwaukee
Chair and plate -----	Mrs. Kenneth Knowlton, Freeport
Photos, letters, life mask of	
Lincoln face and hands, bust ----	George Simmons Collection, Freeport
Civil War Quilt and Coverlet -----	Mary Henney Smithe, Freeport
Shawl -----	Mrs. George E. Brown, Freeport
Two photos -----	Helen and Thelma Graham, Freeport
Telegram -----	Mrs. E. P. Fitzgerald, California

Exhibition Hall--2nd Floor (Continued)

Framed Memorial Poem -----	Miss Nellie Trembor, Freeport
Framed Death-bed Scene -----	Mrs. Gertrude Church Stiles, Rockford
Union Hymn Book -----	Mrs. Eva Howarth, Freeport
Photo of Lincoln and Tad -----	Matthew Marvin, Freeport
Steel engraving of Douglas (signed)	Robert Eckert
Fire Marks -----	Milton Babcock Collection, Freeport
Copies of Chicago Historical Society Wall Etchings in the Display Rack are owned by the Stephenson County Historical Society.	

In the room are also displayed women's clothing and accessories of the period. There is also a case containing items connected with previous Lincoln-Douglas celebrations.

Basement Hall

This contains a case of shells and minerals and one case each of objects from the Civil War, World War I and World War II. Back of the Civil War case is a large representation of life in Andersonville Prison as it appeared in August 1864. In the center of the Civil War case are objects made and used in this same prison. Mrs. W. D. Little, Freeport, has lent the photographic history of the Civil War, depicting Andersonville Prison, and two other Civil War pictures. Elwyn Poe, Freeport, has lent an 1864 Bridesburg contract rifle.

Freeport at the Time of the Debate

The people were of English background, Pennsylvania Dutch, German and Irish. (The Illinois Central Railroad brought in large groups of Irish to do the grading and lay the track.)

1860 census figures were:

Freeport	5,565	Stephenson County	25,112
Rockford	7,046	Winnebago County	24,491
Galena		Jo Daviess County	27,325
Chicago	109,260		

City government was established in 1855. There were 6 aldermen from 3 wards, 2 police officers, 3 street commissioners, 2 fire stations, and 100 volunteer firemen.

There were 7 schools with 500 pupils and 11 teachers--one high, 2 middle and 4 primary. Miss Burchard had a "select" school.

There were 9 churches: St. Mary's Catholic, Methodist, Episcopalian, Baptist, 1st Presbyterian, 2nd Presbyterian, Lutheran, Evangelical Methodist, Dutch Reformed.

There were two railroads: The Galena and Chicago Union RR came into Freeport from Chicago in 1853. The cars of the Illinois Central reached Freeport from the south the next year. The Racine and Mississippi RR had been built to Beloit and reached Freeport the year after the debate.

There were two Masonic Lodges with 130 members and an IOOF Lodge.

Steamboats navigated the Pecatonica River between Freeport and Winslow, carrying both passengers and freight. One was 80 feet long, 24 feet wide and drew 14 inches of water.

There were self-improvement groups such as

Addams Institute	1852
Freeport Literary Institute	1853
Young Men's Association	1854

Debating clubs were popular.

Goddard's Grove across the river on the road to Cedarville was a favorite spot for picnics.

Fourth of July addresses were delivered in both English and German.

The Brewster House was the setting for many balls and social functions.

It opened first on September 1, 1857.

It closed temporarily in December, 1857.

It reopened June 14, 1858, in time for the Debate.

Many public events were held in Plymouth and Phoenix Halls.

There was a financial panic in 1857 which closed one of the three banks (Taylor's).

Third Ward Park (Purinton) was established in 1857.

THE FREEPORT DEBATE
ABRAHAM LINCOLN - STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS
AUGUST 27, 1858
CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE - AUGUST 24 - 31, 1958

ORGANIZATION. The Lincoln-Douglas Society, an Illinois not-for-profit organization, founded in 1929, is the sponsoring organization for the Centennial. Further inquiries may be addressed to the Society at 115 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND. At Freeport, Lincoln posed his famous question on the extension of slavery into the Territories. The answer of Senator Douglas was a repudiation of the Dred Scott decision to which the South clung with tenacious hope.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE. Historians have generally recognized the Freeport debate as the one significant clash of the series, and the Freeport Doctrine, here enunciated, as the determinative event which propelled the nation from compromise into contest.

THE CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION. It will extend over a one week period, will be dignified, patriotic, and thought-provoking, and at the same time, most extensive, most elaborate, and most attractive - an object of interest and attendance for thousands of people from every corner of the country - a long planned, carefully prepared, and costly program which will meet and surpass the very high expectations already evidenced.

CHICAGOLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL. The Freeport Centennial, its Debate scene, its color and its stirring pageantry will be previewed before 80,000 people in Soldier's Field, Chicago, as one of the featured attractions of the Chicagoland Music Festival on Saturday evening, August 23, 1958.

DEBATE RE-ENACTMENT. The highlights of the Freeport Debate will be presented in a fast-moving re-enactment, on Sunday afternoon, August 24, in Taylor Park. The costumes of the participants, the platform and its setting in the grove - all will be authentically reproduced.

THE BAND AND CHORAL CONCERT. -- will present, on Sunday evening, August 24, the songs, marches and music of 1858, played upon band instruments over one hundred years old and then in use.

THE PAGEANT. A moving and beautiful dramatic and musical presentation will be staged in Krape Park on the evenings of August 25 through 29 -- a pageant which will present the careers of two great Statesmen, culminating in the momentous clash of issues at Freeport.

MUSEUM DISPLAY. Lincoln and Douglas items from all over the country will be assembled and displayed during the Centennial Week.

STREET DECORATIONS. The flags and materials used, the political signs and slogans and all other effects will be authentic as of 1858 so that during Centennial Week a visitor to downtown Freeport will step suddenly into the prairie town of one hundred years ago.

THE FLOWER SHOW. -- will be presented at Consistory Ballroom on August 26 through 29. On exhibition will be the gardens and tables of 1858, the beauty and loveliness of a mid-nineteenth century prairie town, the transition through the Victorian age to the beauty of today.

THE PARADE. A flowing historical presentation of Freeport as it existed on August 27, 1858 -- all floats authentically planned, blueprinted, rehearsed, and perfected to present in marching continuity the beauty, the excitement, the tradition, and the epic significance of the Freeport Debate.

THE SPEAKING EXERCISES. Senator Dirksen, Senator Douglas, Governor Stratton and other United States Senators, Governors, Congressmen and Statesmen will participate in the program.

THE CENTENNIAL BALLS. On Saturday evening, August 30, all of Freeport and all of its visitors will dance in various halls and social clubs around the city, in costume, to the music of a century ago, in the steps of 1858 -- all in keeping with a great tradition.

THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS POSTAGE STAMP. In recognition of the Freeport Debate as one of the four significant events in Lincoln's life, the stamp will have its "first day sale" at Freeport on August 27, the Debate anniversary.

HISTORICAL SITES. All historic sites and buildings in Freeport and Stephenson County will be appropriately marked for the Centennial.

THE CENTENNIAL BOOKLET. It will contain in written and pictorial form, not only the entire historical background but the program for all Centennial events.

RECEPTIONS. -- will be held for distinguished statesmen, historians and other visitors who are in attendance.

ANTIQUE SHOW. -- featuring furniture and similar items of 1858, will be presented at Veteran's Memorial Home on August 29 and 30.

THE CONTESTS AND AWARDS. -- on the Centennial Lady, Art, Camera, Student Essay, Adult Essay, Stamp, Coin, Attendance, Decorations and specific event entries will add substantially to the meaningful commemoration of the great event.

THE VISITORS. Governors, Senators, Congressmen, State Officials, Legislators, Historians, Scholars and the common people - people whom Lincoln loved, will be with us by the tens of thousands.

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT, speaking at the dedication of the monument marking the site of the Freeport Debate:

"Here was sounded the keynote of a struggle, which
after convulsing the nation, made it united and free."

ONLY ONCE IN

100 YEARS!

Freeport Lincoln-Douglas Debate Centennial

Freeport is now preparing for one of it's greatest events -
THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE CENTENNIAL.

This observance will bring thousands of people into our city to relive the great debate of August 27, 1858. This will bring national publicity to our city and visitors of international fame. This will be a week long program of live action presented by the people of Freeport, which can only happen ONCE IN 100 YEARS.

SOME OF THE FEATURES THAT FREEPORT WILL PRESENT:

1. An invitation to President Eisenhower, and other dignitaries of national and state prominence to appear on the week long program.
2. A pageant that will have a cast of hundreds of Stephenson County and Freeport people prepared by professionals and staged on a gigantic scale.
3. A huge parade made up of entries consisting of vehicles, units, participants and floats depicting the times of the mid-nineteenth century.
4. A new and special program for each day of the Centennial being held at the same time as the Stephenson County Fair.

5. There will be displays of antiques, implements, momentos, historical pieces, and papers dating back to the Lincoln-Douglas period.
6. Prominent people from all walks of life, who have made both a professional and amateur study of the days of Lincoln and Douglas, will come to Freeport to assist in, and watch the great Lincoln-Douglas Centennial.

PRE - BROADWAY SHOWING "The Rivalry" in Freeport on November 6, 1957, a play depicting the great Lincoln-Douglas debates, which will open on Broadway, New York City with the original cast to appear here in Freeport, Illinois.

STREET DECORATIONS AND REPLICAS: The entire program must be good... Not just some sloppy make-shift decorations, but authentic replicas of historic Freeport - Store fronts that will attract attention by their 1858 motif. Street decorations that will long be remembered by our visitors. Everything must be done in a dignified, yet colorful manner that will reflect credit for years to come upon the good citizens of Stephenson County and Freeport.

The Centennial Program - What it will not be - an ordinary municipal Centennial for high jinks and local extroverts - a common affair celebrating a mere one hundred years of existence indetical with the existence of countless other municipalities - a glorified street carnival of local interest only - a vehicle for slight enrichment of some threadbare traveling company - a bazaar that screams cheap, cheap, cheap - a watered down stew for a nation which expects a sumptuous feast

What it will be - a tremendous program celebrating the Freeport debate, one of the really great and far reaching moments in the history of our country - a celebration over a one week period, which will be dignified, patriotic, and thought-provoking, and at the same time, most extensive, most elaborate, and most attractive - an object of interest and attendance for thousands of people from every corner of the country - a long planned, carefully prepared, and costly program which will meet and surpass the very high expectations already evidenced by letters of inquiry from Vermont to California.

The parade - not a lineup of miscellaneous bands, marching officials, and bunting-clad trucks, but rather a flowing historical presentation of Freeport as it existed on August 27, 1858 - all floats authentic - all participants in horse-drawn vehicles or mounted - truly a traveling pageant which will be planned, blueprinted, rehearsed, and perfected to present in marching continuity the beauty, the excitement, the tradition, and the epic significance of the Freeport debate.

The pageant - a tremendous and moving and beautiful dramatic, and musical presentation to be staged in Freeport on all of the evenings of the centennial week - a production that is already past the talking stage and is actually in the writing and casting stage - a pageant which will present in historical significance the careers of two great statesmen, culminating in the momentous clash of issues at Freeport, Illinois.

The distinguished visitors. The President of the United States has been invited to be present, and his staff is seriously considering this proposal. Of necessity, a final decision cannot be made until the spring of 1958. While it cannot be said that he is coming, there is every good reason to expect him to repeat the visit of his predecessor, Theodore Roosevelt. Whether he visits Freeport or not, we must be prepared for him, and for the other distinguished individuals who are certain to attend. Our governor and other state governors, our United States senators, and many other senators, our congressmen, and many other congressmen, our state officials and legislators, and many other public officials will be with us to honor the memory of two great Americans. Historians, Lincoln scholars, Douglas scholars, and many other individuals of note will be in attendance. Elaborate plans for their entertainment, their presentation, and their comfort are in progress.

The common people - people whom Lincoln loved, will be with us by the tens of thousands. Letters of inquiry from individuals, from historical societies, from travel bureaus, from educational institutions, and from other organizations in all corners of the country have given indication, over a year in advance, of the interest which will center more and more upon our city. Freeport will either look great or will look foolish - there can be no middle ground - in the discharge of its obligation to feed, house, entertain, educate, and enrich not only its own people and the residents of Stephenson County, but also its thousands of visitors.

The contests and awards - so necessary and essential to provide an outlet for interest and a means of participation - the centennial prince - the centennial princess - stamps - coins - photography - art - essay - attendance, and many other fields of endeavor - all are in the planning process to add substantially to the meaningful commemoration of the great event.

The centennial balls. On one evening of the centennial, all of Freeport and all of its visitors will dance in various halls and social clubs around the city, in costume, to the music of a century ago, in the steps of 1858 - all in keeping with a great tradition.

The County Fair - will be staged during the first half of the centennial program in 1858. The Fair will be coordinated in many ways with the agricultural and commercial life of the prairie years - all in honor of the great debate.

Historical Museum - Lincoln and Douglas items from all over the country will be assembled and displayed during the centennial week for ourselves, and our visitors. This is a most ambitious program which has already been in progress for months.

Music - The United States Marine Band, and various other military bands have been invited to attend, and correspondence with such organizations has been carried on. Our own local concert band, our choral organizations, and other musical organizations of Freeport and Stephenson County will be called upon to participate in various and extensive ways in the centennial commemoration.

National publicity - already the United States Congress and the Illinois Legislature have passed resolutions noting the celebration of the debate at Freeport. Arrangements for a special cancellation stamp at the Freeport Post Office commemorating the debate have been made.

Other activities - plans for the employment of other organizations and for every facet and department of our community life are in progress. There will be special programs and activities for many committees, the flower clubs, a souvenir booklet, the Library and bookstore activity, our theaters, our hotels, the participation of other debate cities in Illinois, our churches, our police department, and other municipal departments, our newspaper and radio facilities, our schools - these and many other organizations and separate committees will all be concentrating on the presentation of a worthy commemorative program.

The Lincoln-Douglas Society is not a separate organization - it is Freeport and Stephenson County united in the greatest community effort of our lives - it is only an incorporated committee created to spearhead the activity of all. A year ago it had not a single member. A year hence it must have thousands of members united in a gigantic cause.

ORGANIZATIONS COOPERATING WITH THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS SOCIETY:

Here are some of the organizations that have expressed a willingness to assist in this Centennial program:

American Association of University Women	
American Hellenic Society	Business & Professional
American Legion Auxiliary	League of the YWCA
American Red Cross	Business & Professional
AmVets Auxiliary Post #32	Women's Club
AmVets Post #32	Button Club, Stephenson Cty.
AmVets Post #215	Cactus Club
Amity Society (Junior)	Freeport Camera Club
Amity Society (Senior)	Catholic Women's League
American Legion Post #139	Freeport Civic & Political League
Audubon Club	Civil Air Patrol Wing
Band & Orchestra Patrons	Community Concert Association
Chamber of Commerce of Freeport	D. A. R.
Barbershoppers	Northwest District Dental Society
Sweet Adelines	Eagles #679
B'Nai B'Rith Auxiliary	Eagles Auxiliary
Boy Scouts of America	East Side Center

Elks Club
Freeport Choral Club
Freeport Industrial Management Club
Freeport Women's Club
G. A. R.
Insurance Women of Freeport
Germania Society
Junior Women's Guild
Knights of Pythias
Lions Club
Moose Lodge #162
Postal Clerks Auxiliary #117
P. T. A. Council
Steph. Cty. Women's Republican Club
Royal Neighbors of America
Steph. Cty Bankers Assn.
Steph. Cty. Dairy Council
Steph. Cty. Historical Society
Steph. Cty. Medical Society
Transportation Club
V. F. W. Post #998
Wa - Tan- Ye

Freeport Education Assn.
Freeport Hobby Club
Freeport Park Board
Future Farmers of America
Freeport Garden Club
Men's Garden Club
Jaycees - Junior Chamber of Com.
Kiwanis Club
Knights of Columbus #653
Women of the Moose #548
Newcomers Club
Priscilla Club
Quota Club
Rotary Club of Freeport
Stamp & Coin Club
Steph. Cty. Bar Assn.
Stephenson Cty. Fair Assn.
Steph. Cty. Humane Society
Steph. Cty. Sportsmen's Club
University of Illinois Alumni Assn.
V. F. W. Auxiliary
Winneshie Theater Group

THIS ENTIRE SET-UP COSTS MONEY - YOUR COMMITTEE
NEEDS GENEROUS SUPPORT BOTH FINANCIALLY AND ALSO
MORALLY - Here is a great opportunity for our city to
really put on a 100 year program that will gain national atten-
tion.

When you are contacted for a subscription, think of it as
an INVESTMENT IN OUR CITY - A direct PROFIT to you
and your business or profession.

REMEMBER THIS COMES ONLY ONCE IN 100 YEARS - Only once in your
life time.

Your subscription will be gladly received RIGHT NOW - Send it to

LINCOLN-DOULGAS SOCIETY
c/o Robert Schmelzle, President
115 West Stephenson Street
Freeport, Illinois

John Resh, Vice - president; Walter T. Woodcock, Secretary; Norman
Sleezer, Treasurer; Board members, Robert Chapman, Mrs. Byron
O. Cully, Ray M. Kendle, Thomas R. Pfisterer, Mrs. Robert M. Seely,
B. Curtis Taylor, Richard Wahler, Jr..

The Lincoln-Douglas Society
cordially invites you to attend a dinner

in honor of the

Governor and Mrs. William G. Stratton

Tuesday, August the twenty-sixth

Nineteen hundred fifty-eight

at seven o'clock

Hotel Freeport

Please reply

Dinner five dollars a person
checks payable to the Lincoln-Douglas Society

229 West Stephenson Street

Freeport, Illinois

Mail before the fifteenth of August

Rev Stratton
1958

CENTENNIAL
OF
THE FREEPORT DEBATE
Guest of The Lincoln-Douglas Society
August, 1958

Parade Reviewing
Stand and
Postage Stamp
Ceremony

Ceremonies of
Commemoration

Senatorial
Reception

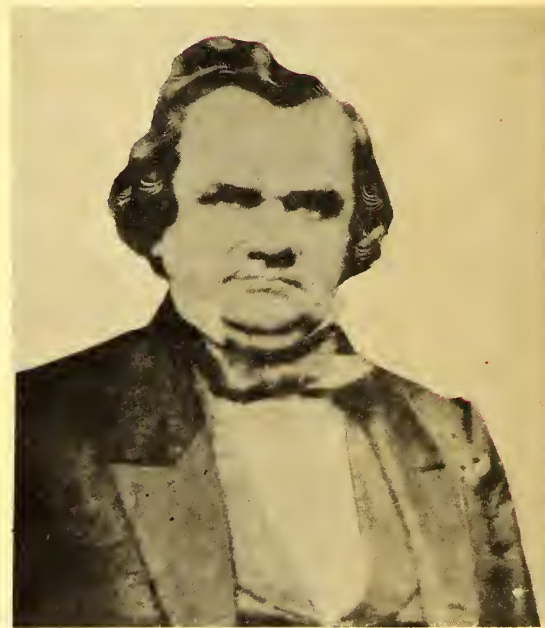
A
Century
of
Flowers

ABRAHAM LINCOLN and **STEPHAN A. DOUGLAS**
The Candidates For
UNITED STATES SENATOR



ABE LINCOLN
The Rail Splitter
Republican Candidate

From Illinois
WILL
DEBATE
The Issues of the Campaign
AT
FREEPORT
ON
August 27,



JUDGE DOUGLAS
The Little Giant
Democratic Candidate

The Freeport Debate

and its

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

Abraham Lincoln - Stephen A. Douglas

1858 - AUGUST 27 - 1958

In response to numerous and repeated requests for a permanent record of the Centennial Commemoration of the Lincoln-Douglas Debate at Freeport, the Lincoln-Douglas Society proposes to publish, in a limited edition, a book of more than two hundred pages, devoted to the fact, the lore and the historical background of the debate of 1858, and to the pageantry, the displays and the stirring beauty of the extensive centennial observance. The publication will be subsidized by the Society so that it may be sold at a price substantially less than cost.

Contents will include -



Hundreds of pictures and illustrations — both black and white and in color.

A full account of the Debate, its historical background, personal color on those taking part, immediate consequences, current significance.

Pictures of complete centennial committees and stories of all projects.

Street decorations and window displays, including revival of 1858 slogans and atmosphere.

The pageant script in full for "Day of Decision," a review of its production and pictures of each scene.

The wonderful horse-drawn parade in full with its imaginative, realistic revival of 1858; pictures of each unit as the march progressed, plus the on-the-spot radio broadcast describing it in detail. Pictures of the largest crowd in Freeport history, gathered to enjoy a parade which can probably never be duplicated.

The addresses of Governors, Senators, Congressmen and other distinguished visitors at the Ceremonies of Commemoration, various dedication exercises and other presentations, fully illustrated.

The excitement of the First Day Issue of the commemorative postage stamp and the commemorative exercises, including the address of the Assistant Postmaster General, with pictures of all activities.

The thrilling torchlight procession and debate re-enactment in Soldier Field, Chicago, including the full script, the cast and pictures of all participants.

The variety and charm of the Flower Show in story and pictures.

The Debate Re-enactment in Taylor Park as shown on TV and reported on radio.

The Concerts and Recitals — band, choral and instrumental — reviews, programs and pictures.

The social scene — receptions, dinners, luncheons and other gatherings, with pictures of the distinguished visitors and participants.

"The Rivalry" — its full dramatic punch in story and illustration.



The Centennial Balls with all of their color and glamour — the decor and dress which re-captured the beauty of 1858.

The Museum Displays and the Diorama in story and picture.

The Centennial Ladies and their escorts, with the detail of their authentic costumes.

The Balloon Ascension, reliving an excitement of an earlier period.

The Contests and Awards, County Fair, Antique Show exhibits and demonstrations, souvenirs, historical sites, costumed crowds, spiritual commemorations and all other Centennial presentations and projects — all attractively presented in a permanent pictorial record.

The subscription blank must reach the Lincoln-Douglas Society, 115 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois not later than December 31, 1958. Publication is planned for Spring of 1959. Payment upon delivery.

SUBSCRIPTION

Because this book must necessarily be published in a limited edition, and to be certain that I may receive the number of copies I want, I hereby subscribe for..... Copies at \$5.00 each (plus postage if mailing is necessary) which is substantially below cost price.

Name

Address

Telephone
Number

*clip
and
mail
card*



*fill
out
and
mail*



IF YOU

WERE ONE OF THE 75,000 PEOPLE WHO
PARTICIPATED IN THE CENTENNIAL,

OR

IF YOU OR YOUR DISTANT FRIENDS OR
RELATIVES DID NOT HAVE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE,

YOU

OR THEY, WILL WELCOME AND TREASURE
THIS BEAUTIFUL BOOK.

PLACE
3¢
STAMP
HERE

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS SOCIETY
115 West Stephenson Street
Freeport, Illinois

DAY OF DECISION

AUGUST 25th - 29th

KRAPE PARK

Cast in Order of Appearance

Verse Reader	Lorraine Pritikin
Narrator	Dean Garrett
1st Pioneer	Don Smith
2nd Pioneer	Robert Pomeroy
1st Pioneer's Wife	Natalie Smith
2nd Pioneer's Wife	Genevieve Borchers
Fiddler	James Seeman
Storekeeper	Harold Vincent
1st Customer	Melvin Lafferty
Boy	Stephen Lafferty
2nd Customer	George Webb
3rd Customer	M. D. Grouchy
4th Customer	John Voigt
Adele Douglas	Lou Ferguson, Kay Knens
Stephen A. Douglas	Richard Sokup
Horace White	Clyde Forth
Abraham Lincoln	Basil Hartman
Woman Guest of the Taylors	Mary Jean Rampenthal
Violinist	Ernest Seeman
Flutist	Julene Wright
Mrs. Taylor	Lucy Resh
Mr. Taylor	Robert Davis
Thomas J. Turner	Glenn Schwendiman
Winnie Taylor	Pat Wesson
Friend of Winnie	Kay Wesson
Pastor's Wife	Karen Thompson
Pastor	Anthony Landgraf
A Man from Polo	George Martin
Man Slave	James Parker
Woman Slave	Berna Parker
Marshal	Howard Homan
1st Douglas Man	Floyd Bicker
2nd Douglas Man	Lauren Madden
1st Lincoln Man	Dieter Valk
2nd Lincoln Man	Tom Myers
Mrs. Oaks	Emma Smith, Anna Belle Nimmo
Henry Oaks	Dick Bell
Mr. Oaks	Philip J. Bardell
Elihu Washburne	Robert M. Smith
Norman B. Judd	William Zartman
Joseph Medill	Everett Laughlin
Press Man from the East	Carl Giesel
Rufus	Joseph Lightfoot
Bob Hatt	Alyn Hess
Watterson	Lee Snap
Lord Charnwood	Pat O'Brien
Chief Justice Taney	George Wachlin



Part One

Overture

Prologue

Invocation

Chorus

Episode One

Episode Two

Episode Three, Scene 1

A Prairie near Lawrence, Kansas
General Store, a Stephenson County Village

Drawing room of the Douglas home
Cassidy's room, Illinois State Journal



DAY OF DECISION

AUGUST 25th - 29th

KRAPE PARK

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Verse Reader	Lorraine Pritikin
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1st Lincoln Man	Dieter Valk
2nd Lincoln Man	Tom Myers
Mrs. Oaks	Emma Smith, Anna Belle Nimmo
Henry Oaks	Dick Bell
Mr. Oaks	Phillip J. Bardell
Elihu Washburne	Robert M. Smith
Norman B. Judd	William Zartman
Joseph Medill	Everett Laughlin
Press Man from the East	Carl Giessel
Rufus	Joseph Lightfoot
Bob Hitt	Alyn Hess
Watterson	Lee Snap
Lord Charnwood	Pat O'Brien
Chief Justice Taney	George Wachlin



Part One

Overture	
Prologue	
Invocation	Chorus
Episode One	A Prairie near Lawrence, Kansas
Episode Two	General Store, a Stephenson County Village
Episode Three, Scene I	Drawing room of the Douglas home
Scene II	Composing room Illinois State Journal
Episode Four	Taylor home in Freeport, Ill.
Episode Five	Kitchen in the Pastor's home



Part Two

Episode One	Before the Brewster House, Freeport, Ill.
Episode Two	Oaks' Farm home
Episode Three	Room 50, Brewster House
Episode Four	The Grove, scene of the Debate
Episode Five, Scene I	East portico, Capitol, Washington
Scene II	House of Representatives Chamber, Washington
Scene III	Battlefield at Gettysburg
Scene IV	East portico, Capitol
Scene V	Lincoln Memorial, Washington

Chorus—Lowell P. Salberg, directing; Maxine Trill, Mary Schenck, Mary Jean Rampenthal, Mrs. Elwood Baker, Jane Brown, Mrs. Frederick Stefen, Wayne Goemhel, Darrell Stephens, Rodney Hewins, Darwin Schenck, Eldon Dreier, John Woodhouse, Warner Johnson

Square Dancers—Rob and Betsy Bingham, Richard Baumgartner, Mary Jo Dittmar, Charles and Audrey Christensen, Robert, David and Carla Christensen, Robert and Dorothy Rimington, Elise, Paul and Avis Rimington, Linda Korf, Susan Korf, Sally and Warner Johnson, Ninny Johnson, Loren Johnson, Edward and Florence Wilkin, Ace and Mary Lou Ensign, E. G. and Mildred McCulloch, Robert and Mary Pomeroy, Russell and Genevieve Borchers, Ann Woodhouse, Curt and Ruth Gruenau, Douglas, Debra and Nancy Gruenau.

Orchestra—Ernest Seeman, conducting; Velma Wachlin, Phyllis Titylor, Ann Glasow, Jim Seeman, Bill Zartman, Arlon Stubbe, John Schwendiman, Ken Kling, Hope Laughlin, Art Smith, William Kubitz, Steve Seeman, John Moerk, Gary Dietmeier, Phil Rehfeld.

Waltzers—Frank and Kathryn Heiser, Daryl and Joyce Long, Joe and Marilyn Fontana, Kenneth and Angie Homan, Shirley Schopf, David Cox, Coleen Downey, Jim Nelson, Bob Davis, Glenn and Helen Schwendiman, Fred Bess, Jane Olson, Lucy Resh, Roger Gusloff, Lynn Osheroff, Mary Jean Rampenthal, Ronald Uecker, Marvin Burt.

Crowd—Charlotte Askey, Tanys Strawn, Mrs. Wm. W. Zeders, Kenneth Homan, Jane Olson, Lynn Osheroff, Coleen Downey, James Nelson, David Dotlich, Sherry Dotlich, Roger Gusloff, Willard Haas, Bonnie Grier, Mrs. Wm. George, Kay Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Heiser, Richard Heiser, Mary Joan Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilken, David Cox, Shirley Schopf, Ronald Uecker, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnson, Jeff Higgins, Joan Cascina, Corinne Dowling, Harry Mitherson, Mrs. Byron O. Cully, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Horstmeier, Sherry Cordes, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cordes, Mrs. John Woodhouse, William Westphal, Burt Croner, Betty Heilman, Barbara Watz, Becky Lafferty, Stephen Lafferty, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Madden, Marianne Madden, Sandra Bowen, Marilyn Mook, Mabel Schoch, Florence Briggs, Kathy James, Gwen Simmons, Kay Kriens, Mr. and Mrs. Don Laible, Nora Kay Muse, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nelson, Mark and Todd Horstmeier, Tom Hamer, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Seeman, Darrell Frederick, Gene Leid, Stephen Schwendiman, Dought Schwendiman, Dick Baumgartner, Eugene Wesson, Kay Wesson, Jeff Fuller, Jim Griffin, Susan Eder, Mrs. William Mook, Clara Conter, Dave Miller, Rob and Betsy Bingham, Mirt Jo Dittmar, Charles and Audrey Christensen, Robert, David, and Carla Christensen, Robert, Dorothy, Elise, Paul and Avis Rimington, Linda Korf, Susan Korf, Sally, Nancy, Loren and Warner Johnson, Ace and Mary Lou Ensign, E. G. and Mildred McCulloch, Robert and Mary Pomeroy, Russell and Genevieve Borchers, Ann Woodhouse, Curt and Ruth Ann Gruenau, Douglas, Debra and Nancy Gruenau, Bill Ward, Charlotte Borchers, Krisane Ludwig, Joel McCulloch, Mrs. Charles Butts, Mrs. Dorothy Wick, Charles Myers, Mrs. Gerald Ierman, Mrs. Elsie Henry, George Brinkmann, Marilyn Brinkmann, Linda Kirtzel, Annette Stukenberg, Anita Stukenberg, Elizabeth Ward, Elizabeth Hartman, Bing Bangs, Jim Trunck, Jo Anne Smith, Darlene Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mellnick, Lowell Thomas, Terry Brick, Tom Golligher, Ethel Kruse, Tom Schmeltz, Dianne Hanson, Susan Toelle, Roger Hess.



Authorship & Direction

Script Donald L. Breed
 Director Jeannette Lloyd
 Assistant George Webb
 Episode Two of Part Two is based on Louise Albright Neyhart's "Henry's Lincoln," by permission of the author and of Holiday House.
 Verse Beulah Jackson Charnley
 Original Music in Part Two Lowell P. Salberg
 The Quotation from Carl Sandburg's "The War Years" in Part Two is used by permission of Harcourt, Brace Company and of the author.

COMMITTEES

Casting Mardelle Voigt
 Prompters Genevieve Borchers, Mary Dennis, Judy Dean
 Stage Manager George Webb
 Stage Construction Arthur Voigt
 Stage Design Mrs. Donald Breed, Mrs. Heinz Vaterlaus
 Production Mrs. Glenn Schwendiman, Mrs. Arthur Cordes
 Centennial Society Board Members Mrs. B. O. Cully, T. R. Pfisterer
 Business Manager Ray Kendlte
 Properties—Outdoor scenes: Mr. and Mrs. Karl Ericson—Indoor scenes: Mrs. Robert Ruth and Mrs. John Woodhouse, co-chairmen; Mrs. Ralph Moss.
 Costumes—Mrs. V. C. Goodhue, chairman; Eleanor Schmertman, Mrs. Charles Christensen, Mrs. Carleton Staben, Mrs. Glenn Schwendiman, Mrs. Milo Ibler, Mrs. Herbert Boyer, Mrs. Ted Gross, Mrs. Maurice Ward, Mrs. John Hull, Mrs. Ford Fuller, Mrs. John Grieve, Mrs. Richard Snidtker, Mrs. Eugene Wesson.
 Make-Up—Milo Ibler, chairman; Kay Kriens, Hapsie Eaton, Wendy Burt, Linda Steffen, Nancy Gustafson, Bill Anderson.
 Stage—Arlyn Kielsmeier, Bill Kubitz, Dee Dotlich, Joan Schmelzle, Barbara Webb, Portia McNess, Carol Uthlaut, Della Neumann, Robert Bennett, Linda Steffen, Marsha Smith, Natalie Moshonas, Sheila Nicholson, Kay Buss, Carol Kielsmeier, Ladine Bennett, Janet Boyer, Jean Sensenbaugh, Sandra Bowen, Judy Paar.
 Lighting—Voigt Smith, Charles Wilcox, co-chairmen; Bob Geiser, Douglas McNary, Buzz Burt, Joe Sullivan.
 Sound—Gerald O'Connell, chairman; Judith O'Connell, Patricia O'Connell.
 Dance—Mrs. Curtis Gruenau.
 Music—Ernest Seeman.
 Chorus—Lowell Salberg.
 Publicity—Donald Bennett, chairman; Bill Pittsley, Mollie Scholes, Suzanne Stewart, Ronald H. Beam, Ladine Bennett.
 Posters—Robert Meyers, Arlyn Kielsmeier, Natalie Moshonas, Marilee Kuehl, Virginia Gartman.
 Historians—Marian Moss, Joyce Baltzer.
 Program and Typing Script—Margaret Evans.
 Parking—Lyall W. Taubert, chairman; Dale Kitner, Roy Croffoot, Eugene Kuhlmyer, Theron Ditzler, Bert Strohecker, John Kilburn, Robert Kittle, Donald Berkbigler, George Yeager, Charles Neff, Donald Janes, Robert Foley, Wilbur Coble, Leo Milota, Dean Stackhouse, Richard Rotta, Joe McKillip, Orin Brinkmeier, Jack Werkheiser, Ted Freytag, Bernie Laabs, Carl Block, Jr., Harold Gassman, Orville Dittmer, Sam Kloopping, Morris Finkenbinder, Martin Kortner, Harold Klouser, Milt Klass.
 Tickets—Jaycettes, Quota Club.
 Seating—Harry Schneiderman.
 Ushers—Roy F. Wessel, chairman.
 Monday Night—Intermediate Girl Scout Troop 69, Girl Scouts of America. In charge: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Stackhouse, Virgil Lawver.
 Tuesday Night—Winneshiek Players, Inc. In charge: Janice Layton; Sue Moore, Caryl Frautchy, Liz Penson, Dolores Higley, Evelyn Reed, Mary Jo Bangasser, Sharon Cramer, Marikou Penticoff, Kay Brown, Peggy Kriens.
 Wednesday Night—Winneshiek Players, Inc. In charge: Winston Wehrwein; Darrell Knight, Tom Ryan, Roger Boone, Raymond Beldt, Donald Freeman, Arthur Cordes, Kenneth Kling, Troy Thompson.
 Thursday Night—OURAY Chapter, Order of The Arrow Boy Scouts of America. In charge: Bert Strohecker.
 Friday Night—OURAY Chapter, Order of The Arrow Boy Scouts of America. In charge: Dennis Pratt.
 Red Cross First Aid Station—Clifford Stout, Sr., First Aid Chairman.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to those who loaned properties, to those who contributed their time and talent or in any way contributed to the success of this production.

INVOCATION — BEULAH JACKSON CHARNLEY

Our father's God, we Carol Thee	O God of all, we raise our voice
In praise of years gone by	Thankful for days of now
The cavalcade of history	The harvest which the heart rejoiced
Under Thy reaching sky	Heaped bin and fruitful bough

CHORUS

Let everybody sing	Omnipotent, may future chant
Of freedom in our story	Tell of truth-filled days
The whole country sing	Tomorrow's legend ever grant
With union the people's glory	Our people goodly ways.



Picture furnished by Mrs. Klein Bardell

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION of

THE FREEPORT DEBATE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
AUGUST 19 to 31, 1958
(Central Daylight Time)

Stephenson County Fair

Tue., Aug. 19 thru Sat.,
Aug. 23, Fairgrounds

Museum Display: Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas

Fri., Aug. 22 thru Sat.,
Aug. 30, Stephenson
County Historical Museum

Pageant: The Freeport Debate—Chicagoland Music Festival

Sat., Aug. 23, 7:30 P.M.,
Soldiers' Field, Chicago

Spiritual Commemoration of The Freeport Debate

Sun. morning, Aug. 24,
All churches of Freeport

Selection of the Centennial Lady and presentation of Contest Awards

Sun., Aug. 24, 2:00 P.M.,
Taylor Park

Reenactment of The Freeport Debate

Sun., Aug. 24, 2:30 P.M.,
Taylor Park

Band and Choral Concert: The Music of 1858

Sun., Aug. 24, 8:00 P.M.,
Krape Park

The Pageant: The Day of Decision

Mon., Aug. 25 thru Fri.,
Aug. 29, 8:00 P.M., Krape
Park

Dedication: Brewster House Plaque

Tue., Aug. 26, 11:00 A.M.,
North State Avenue

Dedication: Lake Le Aqua Na—Governor William G. Stratton

Tue., Aug. 26, 2:00 P.M.,
Lake Le Aqua Na

A Century of Flowers

Tue., Aug. 26, 3:00 to
9:00 P.M., Wed. thru Fri.,
9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.,
Masonic Temple Ballroom

Art Exhibit

Tue., Aug. 26 thru Fri.,
9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.,
Aug. 29, Masonic Temple

Camera Exhibit

Tue., Aug. 26 thru Fri.,
9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.,
Aug. 29, Masonic Temple

Coin and Stamp Exhibit

Tue., Aug. 26 thru Fri.,
Aug. 29, 10:00 A.M. to
8:00 P.M., Freeport
Public Library



X The Governor's Dinner, by
the Sponsoring Members
of The Lincoln-Douglas
Society

Tue., Aug. 26, 7:00 P.M.,
Hotel Freeport

Parade:
The Freeport Debate

Wed., Aug. 27, 9:30 A.M.,
Walnut, Main, Adams &
Stephenson

✓ Ceremonies: The Lincoln-
Douglas Postage Stamp,
Hon. Arthur E. Summer-
field, Postmaster General
of the United States

Wed., Aug. 27, 11:00 A.M.,
Court House Reviewing
Stand

Coffee:
Distinguished Visitors

Wed., Aug. 27, 11:30 A.M.,
Flower Show, Masonic
Temple

Lunch:
Distinguished Visitors

Wed., Aug. 27, 1:00 P.M.

Freeport Concert Band

Wed., Aug. 27, 2:15 P.M.,
The Debate Site, State and
Douglas

Ceremonies of Commemora-
tion: Mayor Glen F.
Kunkle, Congressman Leo
E. Allen, Senator Paul H.
Douglas, Senator Everett
M. Dirksen, Governor
William G. Stratton

Wed., Aug. 27, 3:00 P.M.,
The Debate Site, State and
Douglas

Dedication:
The Douglas School

Wed., Aug. 27, 4:15 P.M.,
Douglas School

The Senatorial Reception,
by the Sponsoring
Members of the Lincoln-
Douglas Society

Wed., Aug. 27, 5:00 P.M.,
Veterans' Memorial Home

The Broadwood Recital
Kenneth Drake

Fri., Aug. 29, 8:00 P.M.,
Junior High School

Antique Show

Sat., Aug. 30, 11:00 A.M.
to 10:00 P.M., Sun., Aug.
31, 11:00 A.M. to 6:00
P.M., Veterans' Memorial
Home

Balloon Ascension

Sat., Aug. 30, 2:30 P.M.,
Taylor Park

Centennial Balls

Sun. evening, Aug. 30

Presentation of Awards

Sat., Aug. 31, 1:00 A.M.,
Court House

Freeport Debate Centennial

DRAWER 5

DEBATES

